State of the Union – Europe caught up in polycrisis

Online conference | 2, 3, 4 & 5 November 2020

Please register [here](#). After registering you will receive an email with a single personal link and password to gain access during the four-day conference.

Part 1: What’s the next crisis?

After the Migration and Eurozone crisis, the EU is now juggling with how to deal with the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The first part of this year’s Clingendael State of the Union conference will revolve around several crises the European Union has faced in the past decade, as well as taking a glance at future challenges. Drawing on these past experiences, can one conclude that these crises have led Europe to the desired outcome and moreover, how do experts conceive the future? These questions will be the starting point of six webinars, where experts will exchange insightful ideas on policy improvement and leadership.

2nd of November

13:00 – 13.05h Welcome and opening of the conference, by Monika Sie Dhian Ho, General Director of the Clingendael Institute

13:05 – 13:45h Key note address by Stef Blok, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, moderated by Monika Sie Dhian Ho, General Director of the Clingendael Institute and Adriaan Schout, Senior Research Fellow at the Clingendael Institute

14:30 – 15:30h Online debate ‘The Euro after Corona’ with:

- **Erik Jones**, Professor of European Studies and International Political Economy at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)
- **Silvia Merler**, Head of Research for Algebris Policy & Research Forum
- **Michel Heijdra**, Director of the International Financial Affairs Directorate at the Dutch Ministry of Finance
- Moderated by Adriaan Schout, Senior Research Fellow at the Clingendael Institute & Professor of European Public Administration at the Radboud University Nijmegen, and David Bokhorst, EU advisor at the Dutch Parliament

3rd of November

13:00 – 14:00h Online debate ‘The Migration Pact: Future Proof?’ with:

- **Hugo Brady**, Senior strategic advisor at the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Part 2: (New) European leadership

In a situation where polycrisis seems to have become the new norm for the EU, its capacity to lead also needs to be reinvented continuously. What actions and leadership are needed from the European Council, Commission and the European Parliament? On the day after the US elections, we will discuss how the EU can better respond to crises and become more strategically autonomous, regardless of who will be in the White House. How will EU leadership and crisis management look like? Is it desirable for Germany and France to stay on top of the EU’s crisis response and international positioning? How do we deal with EU member states internally undermining joint EU efforts? These questions will be the starting point of two panels, where experts will discuss and share their knowledge on the state of European leadership and the way forward after the US elections.

4th of November

14:00 – 15:00h Online debate ‘The State of European Leadership’, with:

- **Luuk van Middelaar**, Professor of Foundations and Practice of the European Union and its Institutions at Leiden University
- **Piotr Buras**, Head of the Warsaw office of the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)
- **Heleen Mees**, Opinion writer, economist and lawyer
- Duncan Robinson, Brussels bureau chief at The Economist
- Moderated by René Cuperus, Senior Research Associate at the Clingendael Institute and Michiel Emmelkamp, Senior Strategist at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs

15:30 – 16:30h  Online debate ‘The EU in the New Global Reality (after the US elections)’, with:

- Erik Brattberg, Director of the Europe Program and Fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington
- Lise Gregoire, EU Director at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Louise van Schaik, Head of Unit EU & Global Affairs at the Clingendael Institute
- Steven Erlanger, Chief diplomatic correspondent in Europe for The New York Times
- Moderated by Rem Korteweg, Senior Research Fellow at the Clingendael Institute and Brigitte Dekker, Junior Researcher at the Clingendael Institute

5th of November
10:00 – 12:00h  Workshop on Differentiated Integration with Dutch stakeholders (on invitation only):

- ‘Post-Brexit’, moderated by Rem Korteweg, Senior Research Fellow at the Clingendael Institute
- ‘Schengen’, moderated by Monika Sie Dhian Ho, General Director of the Clingendael Institute

15:00 – 16:00h  Keynote address by Michael Stibbe, EU advisor to Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, ‘Can the European Council manage the heightened differences?’. Followed by Q&A moderated by Monika Sie Dhian Ho, General Director of the Clingendael Institute, and Adriaan Schout, Senior Research Fellow at the Clingendael Institute